GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1514
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Assessment of MGNREGS Wages
Kharge Shri Mallikarjun

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government owed over Rs. 12,000 crore to the States from the budget of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) at the end of 2015-16 and if so, the details thereof and the reasons there for;

(b) the ratio of the amount paid and the amount owed to the workers;

(c) whether almost 25% of the amount owed as wages belonged to the workers from drought hit States and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to pay the due amount and the time frame for the same along with the steps taken to make sure that no such problem is faced by the poor workers in the coming years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a): There was pending liability of Rs. 12581.64 crore at the end of financial year 2015-16 i.e as on 31.03.2016 shared by States due to shortage of funds. The Ministry has released funds during 2016-17 to liquidate pending wage liability of States/UTs for the financial year 2015-16.

(b)&(c): State/UT-wise details of break-up of expenditure on unskilled wage under the MGNREGS during the current financial year is indicated at Annexure.

(d): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a demand driven programme. The fund release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is making funds available in view of demand.

For ensuring timely payment of wages, the Central Government has started National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS) in 21 States and 1 UT. The system is likely to reduce unnecessary parking of funds in the States and promote greater transparency in fund management.

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